(b) Delhi Police have launched an umbrella scheme for Community Policing which, apart from including the earlier schemes aimed at promoting the police-public interface, also incorporates new schemes like Organization of "Thana Diwas" at each Police Station; and "Samadhan" and "Chaupal" Schemes in Crime Prone Areas.

(c) The measures taken to control corrupt practices in Delhi Police include strengthening of the Vigilance branch of Delhi Police; setting up of a Public Grievances Cell in each District of Delhi Police; earmarking of Post Box No. 171 to enable the public to inform the Commissioner of Police about any criminal or corrupt activity of a police official; surprise checks by vigilance branch and other superior officers of Delhi Police; maintenance of close watch on police personnel with doubtful integrity; inculcation of a sense of humanity, service and respect of law through regular refresher courses; and frequent briefing by senior officers, etc.

Raising of all-women battalion in Tamil Nadu

1466. MISS MABEL REBELLO:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government propose to raise all-women battalion in their police force, as reported in the *Indian Express* of 11th December, 2002;

(b) if so, details of the proposal;

(c) whether any other State has also raised this battalion; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) in the face of unabated increase in violence against women, the steps taken by Government to strengthen women police force in the States to instill confidence among victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government to Tamil Nadu has informed that they have a proposal to raise an all-women battalion in their police force.

(c) No information is available with the Central Government in this regard.

(d) Central Government have been advising all the State Government to increase the proportion of women personnel in their police force. Under the Scheme for Modernization of Police Forces funds are allocated for creation of facilities for women police in the Police Stations.

Staying of Afghan citizens in India

1467. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRIRAJEEVSHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Afghan citizens are still staying in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to send them back;

(c) whether Government have granted Indian citizenship to some Afghan citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As per available information about 19000 Afghan citizens are staying in India as on 31.12.2002.

(b) While majority of the Afghan nationals belong to Hindu Sikh community and were being allowed to stay in India on humanitarian grounds, now with the changed scenario in Afghanistan the Afghan nationals are being encouraged to return to their home country.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. So far 69 Afghan nationals have been granted Indian citizenship.

Immigration policy

1468. SHRIRAJEEVSHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering formulating an